

2 September 1986
MJN 8614

MEMORANDUM FOR: Director, Foreign Broadcast Information Service
THROUGH : Chief, Operations Group
SUBJECT : Monthly Report--Jordan Bureau--August 1986

I. OPERATIONS

A. Monitorial/Editorial

1. On 5 August Amman Domestic Service in Arabic began broadcasting a 30-minute weekly program entitled "The Occupied Homeland, News and Views" on West Bank affairs. On 8 August Amman Television Service in Arabic began broadcasting, on both the Arabic and foreign language channels, a 30-minute weekly program for the inhabitants of the Israeli occupied territory entitled "With Our People in the Occupied Territory." Due to high local consumer interest in the programs, the bureau has been filing editorial reports on both the radio and television programs as well as VSL's on the television series. The two programs follow hard on the heels of the publication on 1 August of the text of the Jordanian Government's 5-year plan for West Bank development, filed by the bureau in four takes on 3 August and published in the 5 August DAILY REPORT.

2. In response to a request from the Wire regarding a high-level consumer's interest in the 3 August edition of the Beirut AL-NAHAR, which contained an Islamic Jihad statement on American hostages and a photograph of hostage David Jacobsen, the bureau provided the text of the five major points of the statement from the 4 August issue of the Dubayy AL-BAYAN, and forwarded the paper with the photograph to Headquarters via DHL courier.

3. A continuing dispute between our local newspaper distributor and the Iraqi supplier has continued to disrupt our coverage of Baghdad AL-JUMHURIYAH and AL-THAWRAH. NEAD has agreed to assume coverage of these papers until the local dispute is resolved. Bureau continues to investigate alternate sources. ✓

4. With the bureau's assumption of coverage responsibilities for 11 Gulf newspapers, a revised handling system for newspapers has been implemented. The bureau now maintains a program summary file for newspapers, which includes current and preceding months, and has expanded its press selection list to include negative selection notations for unproductive editions.

Page 2
MJN 8614

B. Communications

1. Extensive backstop coverage coordination was required with Nicosia, London and the BBC as a result of a planned power outage on 9 August that affected both the main and back-up power sources at the embassy. The outage, which lasted for 4 hours, was scheduled by the embassy on short notice to perform "essential" electrical maintenance. In spite of bureau complaints regarding the mass disruption of coverage this would cause, the embassy maintained the maintenance had to be done during business hours in case the electrician had to buy parts.

II. COMMUNITY AFFAIRS

A. Bureau Chief [] captained an all-star embassy tennis team to ignominious defeat in a tournament sponsored by the local Holiday Inn. Justice was done, however, as the winning team from Alia, Royal Jordanian Airlines, garnered the first prize of, you guessed it, an airline ticket.

STAT

[]

STAT

Chief, Jordan Bureau

ATT: Monthly Production Report